



In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of stimulating ~~a an-efficient~~ HIV1-specific CD8⁺ response in a human infected with an HIV retrovirus said method comprising:
administering to the human, a ~~nucleic acid-based~~ recombinant viral vaccine, which enters the cells of the human and intracellularly produces HIV specific peptides for presentation on the cell's MHC class I molecules,
where said peptides are presented in an amount sufficient to stimulate a protective CD8⁺ HIV structural antigen response, and
where said human
 - i. has a viral load of less than 10,000 viral copies per ml of plasma and a CD4⁺ cell count of above 500 cells/ml, and
 - ii. has been treated with one or more anti-viral agents, which contributed to a lower viral copy and higher CD4⁺ cell count than before treatmentwhere said HIV specific peptides comprise HIV gag, gp120, nef or pol peptides.
2. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 wherein the human has been treated with anti-viral agents, which resulted in the human having a viral load of less than 1,000 viral copies per ml of blood serum and a CD4⁺ cell count of above 500 cells/ml.
3. (Original) A method of claim 2 wherein the anti-viral agents comprise a combination of protease inhibitors and inhibitors of reverse transcriptase.
4. (Withdrawn) A method of claim 1 wherein the vaccine is a DNA based vaccine.
5. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1 wherein the ~~nucleic acid-based~~ recombinant viral vaccine is ~~delivered by~~ an attenuated recombinant virus.
6. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 5 wherein the attenuated recombinant virus comprises a pox virus.

7. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 6 wherein the attenuated recombinant pox virus comprises NYVAC or ALVAC.
8. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 6 wherein the recombinant pox virus comprises MVA.
9. (Original) A method of claim 1 where the vaccine is administered a second time.
10. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 wherein the HIV specific peptides are structural viral peptides.
11. (Canceled).
12. (Original) A method of claim 1 wherein the vaccine further comprises an adjuvant.
13. (Original) A method of claim 1 further comprising administering interleukin 2 or CD40 ligand in an amount sufficient to potentiate the CD8⁺ response.
14. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 where the human has been infected with HIV and has demonstrated repeated and sustained proliferative T-cell responses to gp120 envelope protein.
15. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 14 where the human has demonstrated repeated and sustained proliferative T-cell responses to p24 gag antigen.
16. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 where the human is infected with HIV and is further tested by a skin test for a hypersensitive response to p24 gag antigen.

17. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 where the human is infected with HIV and is further tested by a skin test for a hypersensitive response to gp120 envelope antigen.